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November 16, 2001

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Box PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: FLEXIBLE INSTRUMENT

Inventors: David L. BROCK, Woojin LEE, Gary ROGERS,
Barry WEITZNER and Robert W. CUNNINGHAM

Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. Application- 65 pages, including 8 independent claims and 71 claims total.
2. Drawings- 23 sheets of drawings (Figures 1-49).
3. The filing fee is calculated as follows:



WASHINGTON
202-408-4000

ATLANTA
404-653-6400

PALO ALTO
650-849-6600



TOKYO
011-813-3431-6943

BRUSSELS
011-322-646-0353

10010150 11/16/01

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Basic Application Filing Fee					\$740	\$ \$740.00
	Number of Claims		Basic	Extra Claims		
Total Claims	71	-	20	51	x \$18	918.00
Independent Claims	8	-	3	5	x \$84	420.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim(s)					+\$270	
Subtotal						\$ 2078.00
Reduction by 1/2 if small entity						- 1039.00
TOTAL APPLICATION FILING FEE						\$ 1039.00

4. No check is enclosed. Please charge deposit account 06-0916 in the amount of \$1039.00. The fee includes:

\$370.00 filing fee; and
\$669.00 additional claims fee.

This application is a continuation-in-part of the applications identified on page 1 of the attached specification, in the paragraph entitled "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS". This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b).

Applicants claim the right to priority based on the Provisional Patent Applications identified on page 1 of the attached specification, in the paragraph entitled "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS".

Please address all correspondence with respect to this application to:

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This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f).
Applicant(s) await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for
filing the Declaration.

Please accord this application an application number and filing date.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due and
any other fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application
to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:



M. Lawrence Oliverio
Reg. No. 30,915

LMO/bev
Enclosures

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**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10 OF
MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

Attorney Docket No. 8491.0009-00000

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November 16, 2001

Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Box PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:


Beverly Strasnick

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